

ROTOVUE

Serving Marine Corps Air Station New River and Jacksonville, N.C.

www.newriver.usmc.mil

May 4, 2005

Vol. 44 No. 9

INSURGENTS BEWARE: MAG-29 IS ON THE HUNT



Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cospla
See pages 14, 15
for more information

STATION CLEANING

Station observes Earth Day
with Operation Clean Sweep

Pg. 3



GEICO FIRE AWARD

ARFF sergeant
awarded elite
firefighting
award for
volunteer work
in the city of
Jacksonville

Pg. 8



MDU DENTAL VAN

Bringing dental to your doorstep

Pg. 22



FLIGHTLINES

Station town hall meeting

Camp Lejeune officials, representatives from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and the private partner that recently assumed the name of Atlantic Marine Corps Communities, are appearing at a Town Hall Meeting here at the Theater tomorrow from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The main purpose of the meeting is to discuss privatization of housing on base and how it affects the current and future residents of base housing.

Beginning in October, private contractors are expected to begin managing military housing here. All residents and concerned citizens are invited to attend.

Spouse appreciation

Friday is Military Spouse Appreciation Day. Unit commands and individual Marines and Sailors are encouraged to plan appropriately for it.

For more information, consult Marine Administrative Message 182/05.

Annual Britt Haven prom

Britt Haven Nursing Home is having their Annual Prom on May 11. New River personnel have participated in this event in the past as a community out reach. Britt Haven is housing for retired Marines, Marine spouses and other elderly people here in the Jacksonville area.

All Marines are encouraged to attend to socialize, dance and entertain the Britt Haven retirees. The uniform is Dress Blue Bravo or Service "A." For details about participation, times and directions, contact Beth Sweeney at extension 449-6528 or e-mail, sweeneyem@usmc-mccs.org.

Retiree appreciation

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., is hosting a Military Retiree Appreciation Day at Marston

Pavilion on May 14 from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

The event will be highlighted by the presentation of two awards: the Whitey Welbourn Award and the World War II Commemoration Medal.

Breakfast will be served from 7 to 8 a.m. Cost of the breakfast is \$5.25 per person.

To make reservations or for more information, call Randy Reichler at the Retired Affairs Office, 451-3212, ext. 205.

Free summer camp for kids

Operation Purple Camps, sponsored by the National Military Family Association, offer a free week of summer fun for kids with deployed parents. This year, camps are being held at locations all over the world. Locally, a camp is being held in Parkton, N. C., at Rockfish Camp.

Campers from all service branches will gather together to experience a memorable week of traditional camp fun with a focus on learning coping skills to better deal with a parent's deployment. Registration for one of Operation Purple's Summer Camps closes on May 15.

All applications, forms and details on camp locations are available at www.nmfa.org/site/Page-Server.

Kids speech screening

The Camp Lejeune Naval Hospital Pediatric Clinic is offering speech screenings by appointment only on May 16 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for newborns to 36 months.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 450-4127.

Station hosting safety expo

Find out how difficult it is to react in a vehicle after drinking alcohol on May 20 at a Safety Expo sponsored by the Safety Office here.

Also during the Expo, participate in other fun events while learning about safety.

It all happens from 11 a.m. to 3

p.m. at the Station Staff Noncommissioned Officers Club.

New River Open House

New River is hosting an Open House on May 25, featuring the Canadian Forces Snowbirds Jet Team as they demonstrate their aerial abilities.

Also featured are the U.S. Army "Golden Knights," considered to be the world's best parachute team.

Gates open at 11 a.m., and the show starts at 1 p.m. The show is free and open to the public.

Spouses, kids scholarship

Anheuser-Busch has donated \$1 million to create the Intrepid/Anheuser-Busch Fallen Heroes Fund, which provides scholarships to spouses and children of U.S. military and coalition personnel killed during the war in Iraq.

The Intrepid Museum Foundation administers the scholarship program, provides oversight and administration and supports the mission of the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum and operates the Museum as a memorial, educational and charitable institution.

For more information, go to info@intrepidmuseum.org or call (212)245-0072.

New campaign medals

Marine Administrative Messages 172/05 and 173/05 announce qualifications for the recently authorized Iraq Campaign Medal and Afghanistan Campaign Medal.

To qualify for the Iraq Campaign Medal, Marines must have participated in direct support of Operation Iraqi Freedom beginning March 19, 2003, to a future date to be determined.

To qualify for the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Marines must have participated in direct support of Operation Enduring Freedom beginning Oct. 24, 2001, to a future date to be determined.

For more information, all are advised to read MARADMINs 172/05 and 173/05 and should

address questions to their respective administrative personnel.

MARPAT survey online

Infantry Combat Equipment, Marine Corps System Command is conducting a survey to find out how the new digital camouflage uniform is holding up.

The object of the survey is to collect feedback about how the uniform is wearing and any problem areas servicemembers have found during use.

The survey is available on line at <https://192.156.75.117/survey/com-batutil2005.nsf/utlilurvstart?open-form>.

MOS career roadmaps

The official Marine Corps Web site now has a link in the top right hand corner to "MOS Roadmaps, Careers in the Corps," or go to <http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/g3/roadmap.htm>.

The roadmaps are a tool individual Marines can use to evaluate and pursue training and education opportunities for career progression in their military occupational specialty.

MAG-29 hosts marriage class

The Marine Aircraft Group-29 Chaplains Office, with help from the Marine Family Service Center, are conducting one-day marriage enrichment workshops during May.

The classes include: pre-marriage workshops, song of Solomon couples faith study, financial management for couples and stress management class.

For time, location or information, call 449-6866 or 449-6110.

On the cover

Two Marines from Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Camp Lejeune, N.C., escort an enemy prisoner of war captured during Operation Carolina Thunder on April 12. Marine Aircraft Group-29 provided close air support during the event.



Commanding Officer
Col. Stephen L. Forand

Executive Officer
Lt. Col. Karl S. Elebash

Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. Lewis Summerville

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Rob James

Public Affairs Chief
Master Sgt. Brenda S. Donnell

Press Chief
Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer

Editor
Lance Cpl. Michael Angelo

Layout Technicians
Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola
Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale

Joint Public Affairs Office Staff
Sgt. Wayne Campbell
Sgt. Andrew W. Miller
Pfc. Jonathan A. Tabb

Combat Visual Information Center
Gunnery Sgt. Richard Small
Lance Cpl. Noah G. Dunagan
Lance Cpl. Ezekiel R. Kitandwe
Pfc. John D. Cranford

Disclaimer

This Department of Defense newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the DoD. Contents of The RotoVue are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the DoD, or the Joint Public Affairs Office, Marine Corps Air Station New River.

The RotoVue is published by Landmark Military Newspapers, a private firm in no way connected with the DoD, the U.S. Army, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Air Force, or the U.S. Marine Corps, under exclusive contract with MCAS New River.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the DoD or military services, or Landmark Military Newspapers, of products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Joint Public Affairs Office. For information regarding content, contact Joint Public Affairs Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station New River, PSC Box 21002, Jacksonville, NC 28545-1002.

If you have any comments or suggestions you may also contact the public affairs office at (910) 449-6196 or fax (910) 449-6478.

Be aware of acceptable computer useage

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

As the Marine Corps moves into a computer-filled future, problems arise which must have been unimaginable to Marines of the past. One of these problems is the growing popularity of chain e-mail, computer viruses and hoaxes.

Marine Administrative Message 525/01, released in October 2001, warns Marines that chain e-mails and scams can lead to unnecessary increases in network traffic and decreases in performance. Marines who forward these emails, knowingly or not, could find themselves in trouble for causing damage to systems and affecting unit readiness.

"These computers are for official government use only. Chain e-mails are not a form of official business," said Linda S. Davis, Station communications officer.

Whether they remember it or not, every servicemember who checked into the Station signed a statement of acceptable computer use, she said. The document states that everyone who signs it understands that all traffic on government computers is monitored and infractions can lead to suspension of privileges, among other penalties. A reminder of the usage agreement pops up every time someone logs onto a government computer.

"I would suggest everyone re-read their user form and refresh themselves with what they agreed to," she said.

According to a General Administrative Message from the Commander, Marine Forces Integrated Network Operations in Quantico, Va., given our network infrastructure and the global address list, it is very easy for individuals to forward chain e-mails to literally thousands of others with a few clicks of a mouse. Such a large volume of correspondence can lead to degraded network services by overloading servers and communication circuits.

Another problem with chain e-mails, apart from the fact that they take up extra space on hard drives, is that many of them have hidden codes used to collect personal information about the individuals who read them, said Davis.

"A lot of them are trying to steal your identity by asking for personal information. If you get a chain mail from someone outside of the area, delete it. If you get it from a government employee, we need to know," she said.

The most important thing to remember is that our computer networks need to be protected like any other weapons system.

"The worst thing a terrorist can do to us is take down our computer systems. Be aware that there is someone on the other side of the wire, trying to take advantage," concluded Davis.



Commissary 'hits a homerun' during IG Inspection

Pfc. Jonathan A. Tabb
correspondent

The Station Commissary had the second highest score this fiscal year in the Defense Commissary Agency Inspector General inspection on April 8.

According to store director Patricia D. Tourish, their score of 90.7 percent was much higher than the average score of 75 percent.

"The IG inspections come every five years and are unannounced," the Maple Hill, N.C., native said.

"The inspectors showed up the morning of April 6, and after introducing themselves," she said, "they conducted a 'whirlwind inspection.'

"This inspection consists of checking all the merchandise for expiration dates and prices to ensure it is all within

our regulations."

Tourish said the inspectors didn't have any negative remarks after their initial inspection, after which they explained the details of the rest of the inspection that would commence the following day.

"They came back Thursday and stayed for almost twelve hours," she said. "They inspected everything from cleanliness to product numbers. They were very detailed.

"They observed the procedures within each department -- grocery, meat, produce and customer service.

"They made their observations and compared them with our supporting documentation."

After the inspection was complete, they gave no hint as to how the commissary scored, Tourish said.

"The next morning they came back, and that's when they told us," said Elizabeth C. Myers, produce manager.

Many would credit their success to the teamwork and professionalism upheld by the staff, but Myers said it was much more than that.

"Given the wonderful direction we have, we are enabled to guide the other employees," she said. "That plays a huge part in our success.

"(Tourish's) diligence as a leader allows us to shine in the way we have. It's obviously a very proud moment since our jobs are so important to us."

Tourish has worked for DeCA for 25 years, and has worked for both Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune and MCAS New River.

Tourish said she plans on being here until she retires.

Marines, civilians work together to clean Station

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

Operation Clean Sweep, the Station's annual environmental awareness event, was conducted April 18-23, with cleanups of the New River shoreline and Highway 17 median between the Curtis and Douglas Road gates.

On April 22, approximately 30 Marines from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron scoured two locations along the Station's waterfront in the morning. One group started at the Marina, and the other began at the Officer's Club.

"Everything went extremely well," said John D. Hamilton, Station environmental affairs department. "This year we collected 14 tires, 11 crab pots and 27 bags of garbage."

Hamilton said the annual cleanup keeps the ecosystem on the waterfront healthy and makes the Station look better from the water. He added that when trash collection takes place regularly, as with this annual event, less manpower is needed to keep the area clean.

Also on April 22, approximately 25 of the Station's civilian employees met in the afternoon to pick up litter along the grass median dividing the north and southbound lanes of Highway 17.

The appropriated civilians signed a contract with the city to adopt the stretch of highway in 1997, and they try to clean it at least four times a year, said Valera D. Beavers, Station civilian personnel manager.

"We always have a great time out there," she said. "It gets us out of the office and gives us a break from our routine."



Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Marines collect trash along the shoreline of the New River on April 22.

An incentive for the civilians to volunteer their time is the fact that when the cleanup is done, they are allowed to take the rest of the day off.

However, many said they take part in the event because they take pride in the New River community.

"I think it's imperative that we join in and keep the area clean," said Bobby M. Wells, Station human resources assistant. "I look forward to doing it. It's good exercise, and it gives us the opportunity to get out and have fun."

Wells said he feels the cleanliness of the community represents the people who live in it, and that's why this year's cleanup was the fourth he's taken part in.

On April 23, twelve people took advantage of the opportunity to properly dispose of hazardous materials by bringing them to the Station Theater. The turn-in took place from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. and was supervised by Kirk R. Kropinack, Station environmental affairs director. Some of the items turned in included paint, bug spray and engine oil. If these chemicals were spilled, they could eventually cause serious ecological problems.

"The concern is that it gets into the ground water," said Kropinack. "That is ultimately our source of drinking water."

Also on Saturday, 48 Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training students collected trash along Robert Wilson Boulevard, and several volunteers searched for litter in the large drainage ditch behind the Commissary.

According to Gunnery Sgt. Samuel E. Sikes, Buildings and Grounds staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, eleven 30-yard Dumpsters of wood, trash and scrap metal were already collected on April 25. He said 82 tires were collected as well.

(Right) Students of the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training conduct a litter pick-up on April 23 along Robert Wilson Boulevard. Other Operation Clean Sweep events included a hazardous material turn-in at the Station Theater. Trash collected throughout Operation Clean Sweep from April 18 - 23 included 360 yards of wood, piles of trash and scrap metal, 82 tires, and eleven crab pots pulled from the New River.



Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale

Harassing phone calls can be a problem

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

Many people look forward to the sound of their telephone ringing, knowing the voice on the other end could belong to a friend or loved one.

However, a problem exists that gives people feelings of dread and fear when a call comes down the line--this problem is harassing phone calls. These types of calls, though, are a problem you don't have to live with.

According to Master Sgt. John J. Thorn, Station Criminal Investigative Division chief from Syracuse, Ind., unwanted or unsolicited calls or calls that are threatening in any manner constitute harassing phone calls.

"Probably the worst thing you can do when you receive these calls is give the caller any indication that they made you angry or give them any encouragement to call you back," he said.

North Carolina state statute 14-196 prohibits using profane, indecent or threatening language to any person over the telephone, harassing by repeated telephoning or making false statements over the telephone.

Thorn said that one danger particular to servicemembers is the widespread use of recall rosters, which contain the personal contact information of each person assigned to a particular unit.

"It's important to safeguard your telephone number, but in our environment, it is kind of difficult," he said.

In conjunction with the North Carolina statute, Article 134 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice also makes harassing phone calls illegal.

It states that no servicemember shall communicate certain language expressing a present determination or intent to wrongfully injure a person or their reputation and property.

Thorn noted that the majority of annoying phone calls come from unsupervised children looking to have fun, but serious, threatening calls are another story all together.

"I think, generally, most of these type of phone calls probably come from juveniles with nothing better to do at home," he said. "However, if you are being

threatened on the phone, nine times out of ten, you know who the caller is or you have a good idea why that person is calling."

If you feel you are in immediate danger, Thorn recommends calling 911. If the calls are simply annoying, phone companies can trace and block certain incoming calls to your phone.

"The best thing you can do is tell the person not to call back and hang up the phone," he said.

According to the Wellesley College Police Department here are some quick tips to deal with prank calls:

Hang Up

As soon as you hear an obscenity, improper question or no response--hang up! It may take the caller five or six times to get the message, but be consistent and hang up every time. They usually get tired of getting no response and stop calling.

Don't Talk to Strangers

Be careful when the caller says he is taking a survey. If you have any concern about the legitimacy of a person asking for personal information over the phone, ask the person for his name, firm name and telephone number. Say that you will call back after you verify the authenticity of the survey.

Don't Play Detective

Don't extend the call trying to figure out who is calling. This or any type of reaction is exactly what the caller wants.

Keep Cool

Don't let the caller know you are upset or angry.

Don't Try to Be Clever

A witty response may well be interpreted as a sign of encouragement.

For information on PPV, go to http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/family_housing

Public private venture hits home

Family Housing Division
contributor

Families living in the Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., housing areas have the opportunity to get the latest information on the first phase of the family housing privatization effort that will begin this fall here during a Town Hall Meeting tomorrow at 7 p.m. in the Station Theater.

Camp Lejeune officials, representatives from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and the private partner that recently assumed the name of Atlantic Marine Corps Communities are presenting the latest information about the public private venture change to housing for the families that live here.

The plan is to start the session off with a general overview of the privatization process and then move rapidly into the information the families that live in these areas need to know as the homes are transferred to Atlantic Marine Corps Communities on approximately Oct. 1.

Families living in the homes to be transferred during the first phase have already received individual notices about the meetings.

These same families will also receive correspondence that outlines the key actions required of them.

Camp Lejeune Family Housing is making every effort to get every family the information they need, but attending the town hall meetings is the best way to get information from the source.

There is a Web site available to provide everyone with the latest on the family housing PPV at http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/family_housing.



courtesy photo

New housing units are being built in Tarawa Terrace on Camp Lejeune. Public private venture is the result of the 1996 National Defense Act.

Awards and Promotions

Center for Naval Aviation
Technical Training

Promotions

Staff Sgt. M. A. Eastmead
Staff Sgt. M. S. Holmes
Lance Cpl. J. D. Alcala
Lance Cpl. J. T. Ayers
Lance Cpl. T. R. Brown Jr.
Lance Cpl. B. M. Begle
Lance Cpl. B. J. Carpenter
Lance Cpl. D. M. Corbo
Lance Cpl. D. A. Desousa
Lance Cpl. D. R. Erb
Lance Cpl. T. A. Liles
Lance Cpl. J. M. Louis
Lance Cpl. C. A. Millice
Lance Cpl. M. R. Reyes
Lance Cpl. J. D. Russell
Lance Cpl. B. J. Weixler
Lance Cpl. M. Wysocki
Pfc. A. J. Ambs
Pfc. J. R. Calderon
Pfc. B. C. Chapman
Pfc. J. D. Clouse
Pfc. N. J. Deyoung
Pfc. A. J. Evans
Pfc. R. A. Heuermann
Pfc. A. J. Hornsby
Pfc. C. A. Kayati
Pfc. L. G. Lacey Jr.
Pfc. P. T. Lamuyen
Pfc. J. J. Lukitsch
Pfc. A. P. McClain
Pfc. M. M. Nekoueian
Pfc. B. J. Paduano
Pfc. J. J. Peterson
Pfc. N. J. Peterson
Pfc. J. Pizzitola Jr.
Pfc. M .B. Tyler
Pfc. S. C. Vanderhoff
Pfc. K. A. White
Pfc. J. P. Wright

Marine Aircraft Group-29
Headquarters

Promotions

Cpl. G. P. Alfaro
Cpl. R. Garcia

Marine Heavy Helicopter
Squadron-461

Promotions

Cpl. M. C. Ice
Cpl. J. C. Knowles
Lance Cpl. E. D. Derington
Lance Cpl. C. J. Krischke
Lance Cpl. J. J. Marks

Marine Helicopter Training
Squadron-302

Promotions

Master Gunnery Sgt. H. H. Hans
Cpl. A. W. Kubica
Lance Cpl. F. J. Conrad
Lance Cpl. F. A. Gorski
Lance Cpl. M. R. Rodriguez

Lance Cpl. J. D. Wassink

Navy and Marine Corps
Achievement Medal

Sgt. A. G. Vansock
Cpl. B. J. Peter
Cpl. D. R. Salmonsens

Good Conduct Medal

Lance Cpl. S. M. Umrao

Marine Medium Helicopter
Squadron-365

Promotions

Staff Sgt. E. P. Peterson

Marine Heavy Helicopter
Squadron-464

Promotions

Sgt. J. T. Case
Sgt. C. M. Shumway
Cpl. M. C. Alexander
Cpl. T. C. Leitner
Lance Cpl. M. E. Driggers
Lance Cpl. M. A. Novak

Marine Wing Support
Squadron-272

Promotions

Master Sgt. T. N. Aldredge
Sgt. N. C. Bailey
Sgt. H. E. Ventura
Cpl. C. Dacruz
Cpl. J. L. Surratt
Lance Cpl. N. E. Aadland
Lance Cpl. W. G. Brown

Lance Cpl. D. M. Binson
Lance Cpl. J. G. Krauss
Lance Cpl. T. M. Morales
Lance Cpl. C. D. Morlan
Lance Cpl. D. M. Myers
Lance Cpl. L. R. Venis

Good Conduct Award

Cpl. S. T. Bates
Cpl. K. P. Gaskins
Cpl. J. W. Hamilton
Cpl. C. J. Lisle
Lance Cpl. R. C. Davis

Navy and Marine Corps
Achievement Medal

Lance Cpl. N. A. Vasquez

Navy and Marine Corps
Achievment Medal

Gunnery Sgt. M. A. Lewis
Staff Sgt. C. P. Delpesh

Certificate of Commendation

Sgt. J. Baouni
Lance Cpl. T. M. Morales

Meritorious Mast

Lance Cpl. M. A. Dymont
Lance Cpl. J. D. Nunez
Lance Cpl. A. L. Singleton
Lance Cpl. M. C. Ukaj

Marine Medium Tiltrotor
Training Squadron-204

Promotions

Staff Sgt. J. R. Jenkins
Lance Cpl. E. T. McGee

Headquarters and
Headquarters Squadron

Promotions

Staff Sgt. J. E. Lucas
Sgt. C. P. Densmore
Sgt. G. K. Hart
Cpl. K. R. Lisko
Lance Cpl. F. G. Harris
Lance Cpl. A. T. McCaleb
Lance Cpl. G. T. Omine
Lance Cpl. J. D. Pierce
Pfc. A. L. Davis

Good Conduct Award

Gunnery Sgt. J. T. Wentling
Staff Sgt. A. C. Wickenden
Sgt. N. J. Allanach
Sgt. K. L. Monaco
Cpl. G. C. Brown
Cpl. D. S. Lehman
Cpl. A. M. Sablan

Court Martial

A private with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-29 was sentenced to a bad-conduct discharge,100 days confinement and forfeiture of \$823 per month for three months for violation of article 112, drunk on duty, article 112a, wrongful use of cocaine and article 134, drunkenness.

HMH-461 returns

Lance Cpl. Michael Angelo
correspondent

Approximately 50 “Ironhorses” from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 returned from deployment on Friday.

For more than six months, the Marines were deployed to Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“The Marines were well prepared for this deployment,” said Lt. Col. Robert D. Pridgen, HMH-461 commanding officer. “There were harsh conditions over there, but the Marines did an exceptional job.

According to the CJTF-HOA Web site, since Operation Enduring Freedom began, they have assisted in defeating local and international terrorists groups and enhanced regional security and structure.

The site says while deployed, the “Ironhorses” helped boost community relations and deliver construction materials to the Dorra Youth Center as a part of Ambassador’s Special Self-Help Program, according to Rachel Dorsey, self-help coordinator for the U.S. Embassy.

“Without the help from the military our only other option was to drive the materials for a portion of the distance to the town and then use camels for the rest of the distance,” said Dorsey.

“The Marines represented the Marine Corps, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, (MCAS) New River and their squadron very well, and I’m proud of them,” said Pridgen.

Town Hall meeting about PPV

Camp Lejeune officials, representatives from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and the private partner that recently assumed the name of Atlantic Marine Corps Communities are appearing at a Town Hall Meeting here at the Theater tomorrow from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

The main purpose of the meeting is to discuss privatization of housing on base and how it affects the current and future residents of base housing.

Beginning in October, private contractors are expected to begin managing military housing here.

All residents and concerned citizens are invited to attend.



Hey, Marine, wear your seat belt



Everyday heroes: ARFF sergeant recognized for volunteer service

Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola
correspondent

A man stands cloaked in acrid, death-black smoke with sweat burning his eyes. His plastic facemask is slightly fogged, and the sounds of his hellish world are distant muffled afterthoughts. He's drowning alone in the obscurity of his own nightmares.

He endures this heat and danger, striding without fear to your son's or daughter's bedroom door, carrying them to safety and delivering them from evil.

He is Sgt. Nathan Jay Allanach, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting head rescuer, and he may one day be your thin line between life and death.

"When I go into a structure fire the only thing leading me is God himself, because I can't see my hand in front of my face," said Allanach. "God drives me to give the service back to man, that's why he put me here."

Allanach is a firefighter in title and in spirit and was awarded the Geico Achievement Award in fire safety and fire prevention at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., on April 25.

The award is given to an individual recognized for their special achievements and contributions to the public good and military community in one of three areas: drug and alcohol abuse prevention, fire safety and prevention, and traffic safety and accident prevention.

"It was a shock at first to win

an elite firefighting award from an outside agency," said Allanach. "I don't think I stand out anymore than any of the other Marines I work with."

Being notified of the award was the first in a series of hair-raising jolts, he said. During a stint at the Sergeants Training Course, Allanach was told to report to Master Gunnery Sgt. Frederick L. Hauffe, Staff Non Commissioned Officer's Academy deputy director.

Knowing instinctively that he was either getting chewed out or bad news, he hurried to Hauffe's office. Once there, Hauffe asked him, "Is there any reason why the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps is calling you?"

Getting a call of congratulations from Sgt. Maj. John L. Estrada and having lunch with him and Gen. Michael W. Hagee, Commandant of the Marine Corps, during the awards vacation, has made all those mornings and long hours worth it, said Allanach.

"I'm proud to be able to represent the Marine Corps in this way," said Allanach. "I hold that true in my heart, once a Marine, always a Marine, no matter what."

Firefighting, the Marine Corps and public service have been in his blood since the age of 13, said Allanach.

Originally from Portland, Maine, Allanach got his start in firefighting waxing fire trucks as a junior firefighter. The son of a police chief and a Red Cross disaster volunteer, Allanach has always

known that he wanted to be a Marine and a firefighter.

"I'm right on the money about where I want to be," said Allanach. "My parents had a great impact on my life in public safety, guiding me, helping me get to where I need to be. It's in my blood."

Allanach, in addition to his duties with ARFF, is a part-time firefighter with the Jacksonville City Fire Department and a senior captain, training and fire prevention officer with the Half-Moon Volunteer Fire Department.

Balancing priorities between 24-hour ARFF shifts every other day and his volunteer responsibilities is key to maintaining peaceful family life with fiancé Christine Shoemaker and son, Ethan, said Allanach.

"Sometimes it's 'bye, love you,' a kiss and you're out the door," said Allanach. "They're my drive and keep me standing strong and striving to better myself as a firefighter. Without them I have nothing, and that's what keeps me going everyday."

To seemingly be everywhere at once, Allanach puts away gallons of coffee and draws from what appears to be a bottomless well of energy.

"He's got a lot of energy and an abundance of Marine Corps knowledge and knowledge about firefighting," said Gunnery Sgt. James G. Vanover, ARFF materials chief and Allanach's supervisor. "Any task that he's given, he puts out every bit of energy he's got. He's constantly going; he's the total package."

Motivated by the loss of three children in a house fire in December 2003, Allanach seeks to make his greatest impact through teaching fire prevention to area children and passing that knowledge on to others.

"There were flames all around me. We found one child, and she didn't make it. The other two children, we couldn't get to. I couldn't get there," said Allanach. "Fire prevention is what I want to do. I want kids to get out; kids need to know what to do in case of a fire."

Allanach consistently continues his education, bettering himself for those he serves, said Maj. Jeffrey E. Falcone, Mobilization Support Battalion executive officer at Camp Lejeune, N.C., who nomi-



courtesy photo

Sergeant Nathan Jay Allanach volunteers to teach fire prevention to children in the Jacksonville area. In December 2003, Allanach and other members of his team responded to a fatal fire that claimed the lives of three children. Allanach uses that experience as motivation to do all that he can to make sure children know what to do in case of fire.

nated Allanach for the Geico Award.

"It's not just a job, it's a passion," said Allanach. "Ten or twenty years down the road you're going to know who the firefighter is that saved your kids. That's what we get out of it; the thank you."

Servicemembers and volunteers like Allanach are the men

who go headfirst into hell to keep our families together. Going into the smoke and the fire, be it in a downed aircraft or structure, to save a life is an act that not only warrants awards, but the thanks of all.

For a humble Allanach, he sums up his actions and awards in one simple statement, "It's our job."



courtesy photo

Allanach is a senior captain and training officer with the Half-Moon Volunteer Fire Department during his spare time. He spends countless hours working to excel as both a firefighter and as a Marine.



courtesy photo

Allanach is a member of the Station Aircraft Rescue Firefighting unit that works 24-hour shifts. The long hours have paid off for Allanach who was awarded the Geico Firefighting award at a ceremony held April 25.

System assists Osprey repairs

Lance Cpl. Brandon M. Gale
correspondent

The MV-22 Osprey program is one step closer to becoming fully operational with the recent arrival of three new avionics support systems.

Engineers from Naval Air Station North Island, Coronado, Calif., calibrated the Consolidated Automated Support System on April 19.

The new systems will increase the test and repair capabilities of the program, said Gunnery Sgt. Luis A. Gracia, MV-22 Fleet Introduction Team avionics chief.

According to Gracia, the CASS stations will allow technicians to evaluate and repair Osprey electrical systems on Station, instead of the current system of sending parts back to the manufacturer.

"We'll basically be able to take care of ourselves," he said. "We'll have everything here."

The three stations, each housed in its own truck, came with an Operational Test Programs Set. These OTPS are interface devices which, when plugged into the CASS, can diagnose problems with avionics systems aboard the aircraft, said Sgt. Michael W. McEwan, FIT CASS technician from Bakersfield, Calif.

"It will save a lot of time and money," he said.

CASS is the wave of the future, and a brand new concept for New River, according to Chief Warrant Officer Stephen M. Redmond, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron-29 avionics officer from Orlando, Fla.

Problems, such as manpower, will have to be overcome, he said.

Currently McEwan is the only CASS technician working here.

After the stations are calibrated, they will go through a verification process to determine if everything is working properly, Gracia said.

"Our responsibility is to make sure the fleet gets what they need. This gets us prepared. When they are operational, we'll be able to support them," he concluded.



courtesy photo

VERAXX releases upgrade to AH-1W Super Cobra simulator

Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer
correspondent

The Marine Aircrew Training Systems Squadron here held a ribbon-cutting ceremony April 1 to mark the upgrade and revision of the current AH-1W Super Cobra simulator.

The system overhaul, which included upgrading the visual systems, as well as major software upgrades, was performed by VERAXX Engineering Corporation, a technology service company specializing in flight simulation, tactical environment networking and inter-operability of computer systems.

"VERAXX offered the best value for the taxpayer's dollar and the best skills from several competitors," said MATSS deputy director Barry R. Fetzer, a Mayfield Village, Ohio, native.

According to the award certificate read by Lt. Col. Richard B. Preble, MATSS commanding officer, this is not the first major accomplishment VERAXX has had while working here since 1999.

VERAXX also was recognized for their help in the development of the MV-22 Osprey

Interactive Cockpit Learning Environment device, the re-host of the CH-53E Super Stallion Weapons Systems Trainer computers, software/hardware integration for the CH-46E



Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer

Updating and improving the visual systems, which are seen here as a mock-up of one of the Station runways, is one of the more noticeable changes made to the current AH-1W Super Cobra simulator by VERAXX. Marine Aircrew Training Systems Squadron recognized VERAXX for their outstanding performance and continued support of the Station and its simulator facilities during a ceremony held here April 1.

Sea Knight and CH-53E Aircrew Procedures Trainers, and the development/integration of the Marine Corps' Tactical Environment Network.

"The latest project was completed under budget and on schedule, and has performed at or beyond the expectations of the users," said Fetzer. "It provides a real leap in training capabilities."

"It was a fun program, and I personally think it was a great success," said Chris Conrad, VERAXX program director for the upgrade. "We are warfighter-focused, curriculum-based and on-time, on-budget. These are the things we strive for with any project we perform for MATSS, and I think that's exactly what we did here."

According to the Scranton, Pa., native, VERAXX is simply following the lead MATSS has set in attempting to offer inter-operability between all Marine Corps aviation training devices at New River and throughout Marine Aviation

"We're just offering the technical support to the squadrons to help them accomplish their missions," he concluded.

Roto View

What traits of your leadership do you admire?



“I admire how much they look out for troop welfare.”

**Cpl. Brian A. Lust,
radio technician,
School of Infantry,
Reading, Pa.**



“I like how they keep everything organized and simple.”

**Gunnery Sgt. Richard J. Pacelli,
Meteorology and Oceanography Team,
Marine Wing Support Squadron-272
Pittsburgh, Pa.**

Book Review: 'Red Badge of Courage'

Lance Cpl. Michael Angelo
correspondent

Stephen Crane’s novel, “The Red Badge of Courage,” is considered to be classic American literature. It features a Union army soldier who is more conflicted with himself than he is with the war taking place around him. It includes a great description of Civil War battlefields.

The story starts with a Union regiment resting alongside a riverbank, where they anticipate contact with enemy. The main character, Henry Fleming, hears and heeds the rumors.

Immediately the book details the conflict Henry has within himself. He fears he lacks the courage to do battle with the enemy. He is afraid and has to fight his own urges to simply run away.

The battle comes and Henry finds himself incidentally trapped in the midst of the fighting. His own men circle his position. and when he realizes he has no where to run, he fires his gun in the enemy’s direction.

The Union soldiers were able to defend the attack and soon make another charge. This time Henry runs away, justifying his cowardice by saying that he was preserving his

own life.

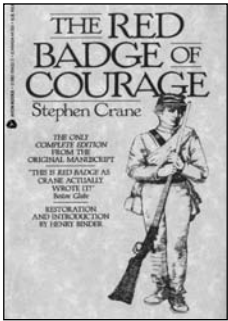
From there, Henry wanders through woods and wilderness fighting the demons inside himself. He joins with wounded soldiers whose blood he defines as a red badge of courage.

His conscience eventually brings him back to the fight where his success is enormous. His commander is heard to say that if every Union soldier fought with the vigor that Henry did, the war would already be over.

Overall, the book is a great tale of internal conflict, and it details how a change of heart can greatly affect a person’s life.

I would recommend the book to any Civil War buff or Marine interested in the successful story of servicemember who overcame his fears to accomplish the mission at hand.

Stephen Crane’s, “The Red Badge of Courage,” is a Civil War novel and considered to be classic American literature.



courtesy photo

MAG-29 ‘War Eagles’ bring the thunder, prepare for war

Stories and photos by
Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola
correspondent

George Washington once stated, “There is nothing so likely to produce peace as to be well prepared to meet the enemy.” Being well prepared to meet possible enemies was the fundamental reason why Marines from Marine Aircraft Group-29 joined by the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, Camp Lejeune, N.C., participated in a mission to defeat a small and determined band of insurgent forces who had attempted to occupy a strategic airfield in fictional northern Curbia on April 12.

Trying to use the field as a transshipment point for a smuggling operation involving small arms and foreign mercenaries, Marines executed a daring raid that resulted in a the capture of an insurgent leader and allied control of the airfield.

The training exercise, designated Carolina Thunder, was designed as a stepping-stone for Operation Desert Talon 02-05, an upcoming large-scale exercise, and for ultimate deployment into operational theaters, said Lt. Col. Robert S. Barr, Marine Aircraft Group-29 operations officer.

“We’re exercising as if the MAG was deployed to Iraq,” said Barr. “And if Operation Iraqi Freedom goes on, we will.

The raid portion of the exercise consisted of six CH-46E Sea Knights, two CH-53E Super Stallions, two AH-1W Cobras, two AV-8B Harriers, two F/A-18 Hornets, one UH-1N Huey and approximately 90 Echo Company infantry Marines. According to the fragmentary order, their mission was to locate and capture the insurgent leader Abdullah Almed Abdullah and destroy the weapons distribution site in the vicinity of Atlantic Field, stopping the flow of weapons and recruited guerilla personnel into Curbia.

The operation was reinforced by close air support, intended to cover the helicopter assault and landing force. After touchdown, the Marines on the ground established a security perimeter, circling around the target building prior to two “sticks” assaulting front and back doors.

The insurgency was quelled in short order, with two enemy prisoners of war in tow, including Abdullah.

Marines from 2/2 gathered all pertinent intelligence and executed a series of patrols around the airfield before radioing for extract. Under the cover of a pair of watchful Cobra pilots hovering overhead, the Marines gathered their gear and prisoners, boarded waiting helicopters and vanished in a matter of minutes.

“The execution of the mission was nearly flawless. The beauty of what we’re doing is that it’s the hallmark of the Marine Corps,” said Barr. “It’s operating as a Marine Air-Ground Task Force and we’re doing it. This is it.”

The mission for MAG-29 was to focus on how the War Eagles can best support operations in Iraq and provide training to headquarters staff and the MAG as a whole in operating as an Aviation Combat Element, said Col. Mark D. Mahaffey, MAG-29 commanding officer.

“We needed to anticipate participating in missions in Afghanistan, Africa and Iraq,” said Mahaffey. “If we’re able to exercise rudimentary command and control capabilities, the mission will be a success.”

Editors note: For more info. see TRAP story on right.



(Left) The sounds of rotor blades beating the air signals the beginning of the raid exercise April 12 as two CH-53E’s and four CH-46E’s airlift approximately 90 Marines into their objective area. (Right and far right) Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment Marines set-up a security perimeter during the raid portion of Operation Carolina Thunder. Marines hopped from the six helicopters involved in the raid and quickly took control of the field. (Below) Marines assault the target building that housed a group of insurgent forces. The Marines entered through front and rear doors, taking two enemy prisoners of war, including the leader of the insurgency.



(Above) Marines from 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment storm Atlantic Field during Operation Carolina Thunder April 12. Approximately 90 ground forces were utilized to take control of the airfield and secure enemy prisoners of war. (Right) A watchful Marine stands guard over a simulated enemy prisoner of war during the raid portion of the exercise. Ground combat troops were able to identify the insurgent leader and extract him from the airfield. (Far right) A CH-53E Super Stallion extracts from Atlantic Field with a full compliment of troops and enemy prisoners of war. Two Super Stallions were used during the extraction along with four CH-46E Sea Knights. Approximately 15 aircraft were used all together.



TRAP mission recovers pilot, trains corpsmen

Marine Aircraft Group-29 participated in a long-range tactical recovery of aircraft personnel mission and casualty evacuation as part of Operation Carolina Thunder at the MacKall Army Airfield, Fort Bragg, N.C., and Camp Lejeune, N.C., on April 12.

The training missions, that included Echo Company, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Battalion infantry Marines and the 8th Communications Battalion, II Marine Expeditionary Force, coincided with the Atlantic Field raid package that helped Marine Aircraft Group-29 simulate a fully operational Marine Air Ground Task Force, said Lt. Col. Robert S. Barr, MAG-29 operations officer.

A TRAP mission is authorized only if the downed personnel meet certain criteria including being alive, not in danger of imminent capture and have a known location within one nautical mile, said Maj. Archibald M. McLellan, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron-461 executive officer and CH-53E pilot during the mission.

“If you can capture an American pilot and show that you have the ability to do that, that’s a major blow,” said McLellan. “But to go out and recover that pilot before the enemy has an opportunity to get him, that’s the ultimate preservation of assets.”

Three CH-53E Super Stallions, two AH-1W Cobras and approximately 40 ground troops comprised the TRAP force. The unexpected downing of an Army OH-58 Kiowa Warrior scout helicopter left one pilot alive and in need of recovery, said McLellan.

After establishing the necessary criteria, the TRAP force approached the retrieval location, preceded first by F/A-18D Hornets and Cobras for close air support, and was followed by a landing force that stormed the field and recovered the pilot successfully, said McLellan.

The simulated exercise reflected the ability of the Marines to display operational flexibility and adapt to technical and logistical issues that are common in combat scenarios such as refueling aircraft for close air support and communication linkage, said McLellan.

“The Marines did phenomenal,” said McLellan. “It was great to see the execution go as planned; being able to flex and adapt is what it’s all about.”

Another aspect of Operation Carolina Thunder was the convoy escort and casualty evacuation portion of the training that included the 8th Comm. Bn., said Barr.

One Cobra and a UH-1N Huey were tasked as escorts to a convoy that included a 7-ton truck containing 16 corpsmen dressed in moulage kits simulating injuries, blood and broken bones, said Barr.

A simulated vehicle-born improvised explosive device in the form of a flash bang was set off, and the corpsmen were strewn around the convoy site. Two CH-46E Sea Knights were diverted from the raid package and arrived at Camp Lejeune to evacuate casualties and take them to the MCAS New River simulated flightline aid station, said Barr.

“This was wonderful training both from an aviation standpoint and the convoy standpoint,” said Barr. “This is exactly the way we’d do it in Iraq, and a lot of valuable lessons were learned here in the States so that we don’t have to learn them in-country.”

In addition to the convoy training, the corpsmen involved gained invaluable experience in dealing with combat casualties, said 2nd Lt. Joshua N. Nunn, Alpha Company platoon commander, 8th Comm. Bn.

“The casualty simulation provided excellent training to our combat lifesavers and Marines who aided with the casualty evacuation,” said Nunn. “For most, this was the first time outside of the classroom that they have participated in a casualty evacuation in a realistic setting.”

SEPS: need to know in order to go

Lance Cpl. Michael Angelo
correspondent

For some Marines, getting into the Marine Corps required waivers, hours of late-night work at the recruiter’s office and stacks upon stacks of paperwork. According to John C. Miller, Installation Personnel Administration Center separations chief, the separation process can unnecessarily become just as tedious.

The Marine Corps Pre-separations Guide says to separate from the Marine Corps successfully and smoothly, Marines must make life changing decisions, follow many procedures and fill out a variety of forms.

“The process is not complicated if Marines follow the separation checklist they are given in the pre-separations counseling class,” said Miller, a retired master gunnery sergeant and Hamilton, Ohio native. “It is not supposed to be complicated.”

Marines one year away from their end of active service date should initiate the process by contacting the outbound section of IPAC, said Miller. This is when Marines are scheduled to receive the pre-separation counseling.

The first class separating Marines need to attend is the pre-separation counseling class. In that class, Marines are scheduled for their pre-separation brief and transition assistance program workshop, which the Commandant of the Marine Corps mandates.

“From what I’ve heard from the other separations chiefs across the Marine Corps, most bases don’t even offer these counseling sessions,” said Miller. “We are the only base that offers this material in a formal classroom envi-

ronment.”

In the counseling sessions, Marines learn about the separations process, conversion of Servicemembers Group Life Insurance to Veterans Group Life Insurance, Montgomery GI Bill benefits, health and dental benefits, wearing of uniforms after separations, re-employment rights, unemployment, travel pay entitlements and many more subjects applicable to separating Marines, according to the separations checklist.

The other mandated classes are the pre-separations brief and the TAP workshop. Marines are required to dress in civilian attire and encouraged to bring their spouse, said Miller.

The only other class offered to retirees is called the pre-retirement seminar. These classes are only held twice a year and last five days.

Ninety days before end of active service dates, Marines should submit requests for permissive temporary additional duty and/or terminal leave, contact IPAC separations for preparation of orders, submit the necessary paperwork to IPAC and schedule their move with the Traffic Management Office at Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

“Marines have to take six copies of their Navy Marine Corps 11060 to TMO and attend a class if they are trying to set up a (do it yourself) move,” said Miller.

Sixty to 90 days prior to separating, Marines should schedule their final physicals.

“Since the blood work is only good for 90 days, Marines should remember that if they schedule their final physical before 90 days out, they will have to have the blood work done again,” said Miller.

Thirty days before leaving, Marines should audit their service record books to ensure data is entered accurately and is up-to-date. Marines should review their Department of Defense Form 214, certificate of release or discharge from active duty, for accuracy as well.

In addition, Marines are required to contact IPAC for a check-out sheet in order to check out of supply, return gear and avoid complications when they are trying to go home or start terminal leave.

Ten days prior to separating or starting PTAD or terminal leave, Marines who need them, should complete their fitness reports. Five days before separating or starting PTAD or terminal leave, if they have met all requirements, Marines should go to IPAC to begin checking out.

“Retirees, medically discharged Marines, administratively separated Marines and those getting out at their EAS all must go through the separation process,” said Miller. “The commandant wrote white letter 01-04, which made these classes required for all Marines.”

Miller said the most common way Marines make the process difficult is by waiting until the last minute to complete all the classes.

“We’re here just to process people out,” said Miller. “My Marines take a lot of pride in their jobs, work tirelessly to accomplish their mission and understand the realization that we are not here to judge anyone because of the separation code they are receiving.

“We try to make the process a smooth transition out of the Marine Corps back to civilian life, so that when Marines leave MCAS New River, they don’t leave with a sour taste in their mouth. We want people to leave the Corps with peace of mind, knowing they have been taken care of.”

Fighting work stress: MFSC courses in May

Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola
correspondent

The Marine and Family Services Center is offering a four-part series of stress management courses at the Marine Corps Family and Team Building office now through May 24.

The classes are administered by MFSC employees and help servicemembers and their dependents cope with stress, said Karen S. Slack, MFSC prevention and education coordinator.

“It doesn’t just teach stress relief; there are a lot of techniques covered,” said Slack. “Each class is designed to build on one another. We’re not going to solve the worlds problems, but you can learn some good skills.”

Stress classes include: dealing with difficult people on May 10; conflict resolution on May 17; anger control on May 24.

According to the American Institute of Stress, stress is a leading health problem among Americans. The central causes of stress generally occur in the workplace and can lead to a myriad of health problems including heart disease, diabetes and hypertension.

A recent Gallup poll indicated that 80 percent of workers feel stress on the job, nearly half say they need help in learning how to manage stress and 42 percent say their coworkers need such help; 14 percent of the respondents felt like striking a coworker in the past year, but didn't; 25 percent felt like screaming or shouting because of job stress, and 10 percent are concerned about an individual at work they fear could become violent.

These problems do not solely exist within the civilian workplace; they are often a part of Marine Corps life and need to be properly managed, said Slack.

“Being a Marine can be stressful with the hours and the rank structure,” said Slack. “The stress techniques we teach can be used anywhere and gives ideas on how to deal with stress.”

The stress workshops offered in May will be followed by classes dealing with relaxation and yoga activities held in June.

For more information about stress management or to sign up for a class, call Karen Slack at MFSC at 449-5241.

MACS-2 stands tall for change of command ceremony

Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer
correspondent

Captain Jimmy S. Hicks, Station Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron airfield operations officer, is taking command of Marine Air Control Squadron-2, Detachment Bravo, on Friday at a ceremony here.

Hicks is replacing Capt. Raymond P. Feltham as detachment commander, and Feltham takes over as the new H&HS Air Traffic Control facility officer. Major



courtesy photo

Captain Raymond P. Feltham

Michael A. Wood, of H&HS, is replacing Hicks as Station airfield operations officer

"I'm excited about working in the fleet Marine forces again," said Hicks, a native of Macon, Ga. "There's a good group of Marines at MACS-2, and it will be an honor leading them."

Hicks enlisted into the Marine Corps in 1985, completed recruit training and military occupational specialty training for air traffic control communications technician, and moved to his first duty station at Okinawa, Japan, in October 1987.

Hicks moved through five duty stations and was promoted to the rank of staff sergeant. At that time, May of 1997, he was selected through the Meritorious Commissioning Program for Officer Candidate School.

After Basic School, 2nd Lt. Hicks was sent to Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla., for training as an air traffic control officer. From there, he made his first appearance at MACS-2, Det. B in September of 1998.

His tour with MACS-2, Det. B, lasted till June of 2001. However, in April of 1999, he was attached to Marine Air Control Group-28 Det., 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, serving as the Marine Air Traffic Control Mobile Team OIC during Operation Joint Forge.

In May of 2001, Hicks attended and graduated from the Weapons and Tactics

Instructor course, and soon after attended Campbell University to graduate in December of 2002 with a bachelor's in history.

Since December of 2002, Hicks has been assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron here, and he has served as ATC facility officer and eventually Station airfield operations officer.

"I think I'm ready for it," says Hicks.

According to Feltham, who hails from Virginia Beach, Va., the degree of camaraderie between H&HS ATC and MACS-2, Det. B, is something he feels will help both captains' transitions.

"I've actually deployed with many of the Marines working at ATC during Operation Enduring Freedom, and recently in Operation Iraqi Freedom II," said Feltham. "I feel bittersweet: bitter because I hate leaving the operational forces, but sweet because the change will provide me a challenge with a

new environment and some security for my family. But I will miss these Marines."

Feltham recently pursued a variety of education opportunities, including graduating from the Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course, graduating with an associate's degree in general studies from the University of Maryland, and graduating from Mount Olive College with a bachelor's degree in Business Management.

He was appointed as detachment commander for MACS-2, Det. B in Nov. 2003,

and before that assignment was attached to MACS-2, Det. C.

Feltham began his career as a Marine officer in October of 2000.

However, his career as a Marine extends back through the enlisted ranks from staff sergeant down, all the way back to his enlistment in December of 1988.

Feltham said he expects his prior experiences, both enlisted and as an officer, will help him in his new position.

"There's a new sheriff in town ... on both sides of the avenue," he concluded.



courtesy photo

Captain Jimmy S. Hicks

MCAS NEW RIVER OPEN HOUSE

FEATURING AN AERIAL DEMONSTRATION BY THE CANADIAN FORCES SNOWBIRDS AND A DEMONSTRATION BY THE U.S. ARMY GOLDEN KNIGHTS



For more information, call 449-4173 or visit the Station Web site at www.newriver.usmc-mccs.org

PERFORMANCE BY
THE USMC SILENT
DRILL TEAM AND
DRUM AND BUGLE
CORPS



MAY 25
THE PUBLIC IS INVITED
GATES OPEN AT 11:00 A.M., SHOW BEGINS AT 1PM

ALL PERFORMANCES ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY AND MAY CHANGE.

Get out and play Station intramurals: spring sports are heating up

Lance Cpl. Jeffrey A. Cosola
correspondent

Sometimes, it's easy to forget the tingling sensation that dances up your arms when you connect with homerun power. Sometimes, it's easy to forget the spin of the ball off your fingertips, sliding through the net with a satisfying swish. Sometimes, it's easy to forget the glory of sports, those high school days where a game could make you the 'man' or a defeat could ruin your mood for weeks.

Joining the Marine Corps does not have to signal the end of your sports dreams. Marine Corps Community Services offers year-round opportunities to recapture glory or try your hand at physical competition for the first time. The MCCS intramural sports program offers a plethora of sports, said Nancy Haigh-Stankowski, MCCS sports director.

"Intramurals are really the core of the Marine Corps sports program," said Haigh-Stankowski. "We're always flexible, and

we're looking for maximum participation."

The spring sports season this year will focus on intramural basketball and softball, said Haigh-Stankowski.

"We're always flexible with regards to adding teams as the season progresses," said Haigh-Stankowski. "We want as many people out there as possible to help keep the Station morale up."

Getting maximum participation can fulfill two key purposes of the intramural program, said Capt. Jimmy S. Hicks, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron airfield operations officer and Station Athlete of the Year.

"Intramurals are important because physical training is a vital part of the Marine Corps," said Hicks. "The intramurals we have on Station are team orientated and build esprit de corps within Marines' units. They give you a sense of belonging."

The intramural sports program is about friendly competition, but standout athletes who excel could find themselves involved in a strange lateral move into military occupational

specialties such as a player for the all-Marine basketball team, said Haigh-Stankowski.

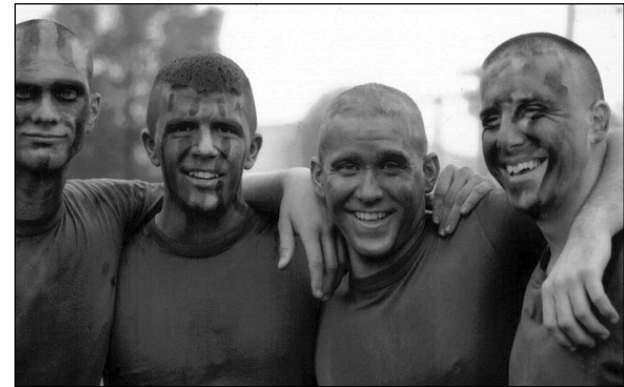
"A person can walk in the door and can continue on and represent our country in international competition," said Haigh-Stankowski.

To many Marines who play intramurals, it's about having a good time and being productive, said Mike Smith, MCCS assistant sports

director.

"The import thing is that it gives Marines a chance to build unit camaraderie and individual competitiveness," said Smith. "It's a good stress reliever, and of course, it's important to have fun."

Intramurals in the Marine Corps offer its participants a golden opportunity to recapture the rare exhilaration only sports can offer. There's no reason to let athletic competition fade into the recollections of championships past. Intramurals are that second chance to play it again, enjoy your fellow Marines and create new memories. Call 449-5609 for more information.



A team of young Marines enjoy camaraderie after an intramural football game. Intramural sports are about making new memories and building unit cohesion, said Nancy Haigh-Stankowski, Marine Corps Community Services sports director.

Knowing the proper diet for you

Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer
correspondent

Eating healthy isn't always easy, nor is it necessarily fun. But according to Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C., Semper Fit dietitian Chris J. Halgaraga, it's absolutely necessary.

"For most people, in and out of the military, bad nutrition leads to a lack of energy," said the Jacksonville, N.C., native. "That's usually the start of health problems down the road."

Barring the many life-threatening health issues which can be raised from poor nutrition over prolonged periods, energy loss effects the here and now.

A Marine or Sailor who cannot stay awake on post or during the workday, who cannot complete their assigned mission due to lack of attentiveness or illness, or who is unable to finish a personal fitness test because they just don't have the juice is a danger and a detriment, both to themselves and the servicemember around them, said Halgaraga.

But what is proper nutrition, and how can a Marine or Sailor make sure they are eating right?

"In short, if you want to know exactly what is the best diet for you, a nutrition specialist is the right route," said Darla J. Dutton, a personal trainer at the Station Fitness Center.

These specialists are provided to Station personnel through the New River Medical Clinic, said Maysville, N.C., native Dutton.

They are also the best way to obtain the right diet for a servicemember, he added.

"Each person is different, an individual," said Dutton. "Getting proper guidance on nutrition is essential to having a specific plan made just for you."

However, for those Marines and Sailors not wishing to visit the specialists, the food guide pyramid is another source of help, she said.

"Basically, everything you need to know is on the guide," said Dutton. "Servicemembers simply need to recognize that they can meet those guidelines right here on base."

"A lot of Marines like to eat fast foods because they don't want to eat at the chow hall, but the chow halls do have a lot of the things you need for a healthy diet, including salads, fruits and healthy portions."

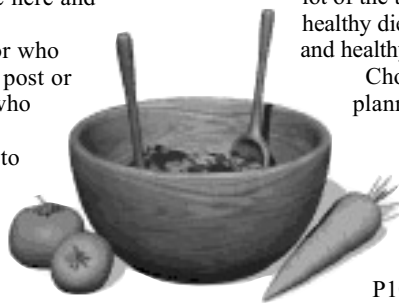
Chow halls meals are planned out to meet the nutritional guidelines set out by the Surgeon General and the Secretary of Defense, according to Marine Corps Order P10110.17C.

"The biggest thing servicemembers eating at the chow halls need to watch for is the portions," said Dutton. "The amount of food they give you isn't exactly the amount of food you need. For some, they need less, others more. It's all according to your diet."

"Fad" diets, however, aren't always the proper way to go, said Halgaraga, nor are they safe.

"Much of what the civilian media focuses on isn't exactly applicable to the rigors of military life," said Halgaraga. "I think general nutrition needs to be re-educated, because many popular diets today don't address the needs of the military."

For more information on proper nutrition or to speak with a nutrition specialist, call 449-6500, extension 278.



John Gunn's military sports highlights Marine Corps to induct Coleman, Keaser, Hirsch and Arizin into its Sports Hall of Fame in July

The Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Michael W. Hagee, is hosting the U.S. Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony at the Clubs in Quantico July 29.

Hagee will induct Marine veterans Jerry Coleman, Lloyd "Butch" Keaser, Elroy "Crazylegs" Hirsch and Paul Arizin at a luncheon ceremony to celebrate their achievements.

Coleman, a Marine lieutenant colonel, was 1949 Major League Baseball Rookie of the Year and is the 2005 Baseball Hall of Fame selection as the Ford C. Frick Award winner for broadcasting. He primarily was a second baseman in 723 games for the N.Y. Yankees from 1949-57, played in six World Series and was the San Diego Padres' manager in 1980.

He was the only major-leaguer who fought in the South Pacific and Korea.

Keaser, Marine captain, was a two-time All-American Wrestler and 1976 Olympic Freestyle Wrestling Silver Medallist.

Hirsch, a Marine second lieutenant, is in the National Football Hall of Fame and College Football Hall of Fame and was selected All-Pro in 1951 and 1953 and to Pro-Bowl appearances in 1952-54.

He lettered at Wisconsin in 1942 and Michigan V-12 in 1943 and played for Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune in 1944 and Marine Corps Air Station El Toro in 1945. As a pro, he played for the Chicago Rockets from 1946-48 and L.A. Rams from 1949-57.

Arizin, a Marine sergeant, was an All-

American at Villanova; scored 1,648 points in three seasons, averaged 20.1 ppg and scored 83 points in a 1949 game. He played in an East-West Game, was All-Service in 1952-53 and 1953-54; a number one draft pick and a Hall of Fame member.

His Quantico team in 1952-53 posted a 42-6 record, was All-Marine champion, runner-up in the Interservice Tournament and competed in the Amateur Athletic Union Tourney. His 1953-54 Quantico team went 50-5, was All-Marine champion and placed third in the Interservice tourney.

In 13 pro seasons (ten in the NBA with the Philadelphia Warriors), he averaged under 20 points only as a rookie. In the NBA, he scored 16,266 points, made 6,129 rebounds, had a 22.8 ppg average in 713 regular-season games and in 49 playoff games a 24.2 ppg average. With Camden (EBL) from 1963-65, he scored 2,077 points and averaged 25.0 ppg.

The Marine Corps Sports Hall of Fame honors Marines who have excelled on and off the athletic playing field. Hall of Fame inductees will be enshrined in the National Museum of the Marine Corps at the Heritage Center near Quantico when it is completed in 2005.

Gunn is a member of the Marine Corps Combat Correspondents Assn., 2nd Marine Division Assn., Marine Corps Intelligence Assn., Marine Corps Aviation Assn., Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, Marine Corps League and Naval Aviation Museum Foundation.

Personnel recovery team retrieves American civilian sailor from Eritrea

Sgt. Brian E. McElaney
contributor

CAMP LEMONIER, Djibouti - The Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa personnel recovery team aided an American civilian stranded in Eritrea after his yacht sank in the Red Sea March 25.

Chris Cournoyer was stranded ashore when members of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461, Detachment B, Team Alpha, 1-294th Infantry (Light) and the 31st Expeditionary Rescue Squadron arrived on the scene.

According to Cournoyer, he was sailing home to meet his wife when he fell ill. Thinking he was far from land, he decided to allow his navigation system to take control while he slept, but an error caused his ship to run aground on a coral reef by the Eritrean village of Ra's Sintian.

The emergency beacon aboard the Jenny Gordon, Cournoyer's boat, alerted the U.S. Coast Guard in California, which in turn requested through higher headquarters to have CJTF-HOA respond. The first call came at 6:50 a.m.,

local time. According to Maj. Sean Salene, aircraft maintenance officer, HMH-461, the pilots were in their seats preparing to take off in two CH-53s by 7:10 a.m., local time, with Team Alpha and the members of the 31st ERQS ready to go as well.

"All we knew at the time was that there was a sailor in distress," he explained. "There were unconfirmed rumors of pirates in the area, but the team was prepared to face whatever challenges came before us."

According to Salene, it took

some time to get clearance to fly across the border into Eritrea, but the team was able to arrive on the scene less than an hour later. Fortunately, the Jenny Gordon's emergency beacon had sent accurate coordinates.

"We found the boat listing heavy to starboards less than 500 meters from shore," Salene said. "We were prepared to perform search and rescue operations, but they weren't needed."

While there were no pirates in the area, the ship was sinking in shark-infested waters, making the

prospect of a water rescue a dangerous one, according to Salene. However, an Eritrean fishing boat motioned towards shore, where a beach and small town were located, so the personnel recovery team began their search, finding Cournoyer there.

"A fishing boat had brought him to shore," Salene said. "When we saw him, he had no shoes, no socks, no food and only one bottle of water."

Cournoyer was reluctant to leave his boat at first, fearing theft and difficulty salvaging, but was eventually convinced to accept the assistance of the rescue team as well as the American embassy in Djibouti. He arrived at Camp Lemonier a little over an hour and a half after the rescue team received authorization to retrieve him.

According to Salene, the ability of the personnel recovery team to respond so quickly relies on the preparedness of the units involved and in the extra efforts put forth by the HMH-461 maintenance crews.

"The maintenance guys do work to ensure we can respond 24 hours a day," Salene explained. "It takes more work to accomplish that here than it does at home."

Salene explained that the helicopters require 35 man hours of maintenance for every hour of flight time. Keeping up with that workload often falls on the squadron's junior Marines, their experience and their motivation.

"You typically wouldn't get that kind of rapid response, even if we were at home," Salene said. "Our ability to do operations like this lies on the backs of the young Marines here. We have these abilities because of their skill and because they believe in the mission."

Due to salvage difficulties, Cournoyer returned home to the U.S. without his ship.



Sgt. Brian E. McElaney

Chris Cournoyer walks with Staff Sgt. Nickolas Charrier from the CH-53 E Super Stallion helicopter that retrieved him from a yacht in Eritrea.

Dr. Caner makes pilgrimage to Station

Lance Cpl. Michael Angelo
correspondent

Doctor Ergun Mehmet Caner conducted two periods of professional military education for Marine Aircraft Group-29 and a sermon here April 15.

Caner has appeared on Fox News, MSNBC, CNN and PAX; publicly debated Michael Moore, director of the movie Fahrenheit 9/11, in a syndicated newspaper column; was written about in the L.A. Times and Washington Post; and is known to national media as the "Intellectual Pit Bull of the Evangelical World," according to his Web site.

The PME's addressed misconceptions and strategic protocols of a jihad and was the idea of MAG-29 Commanding Officer Col. Mark D. Mahaffey.

"What we hear on TV and what is really true is different," said Caner, dean of Liberty Seminary at Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va. "These insurgents are not terrorists; they are devout."

According to Navy Cmdr. Fred A. Hilder, MAG-29 chaplain from Virginia Beach, Va., Caner's visit was informative on many levels.

"We were able to receive a variety of benefits from his teachings. The PME on misconceptions brought a patriotic kind of appreciation, the PME on jihads brought military knowledge, and his sermon at (Memorial) Chapel was a spiritual event. It was a tremendous blessing, and I think

Doctor Ergun M. Caner addresses the "War Eagle" during a period of military instruction at the Station Theater on April 15. Caner conducted two PME's regarding misconceptions and strategic protocols of a jihad.

we got a lot from it," he said.

One of the major themes of Caner's lectures was his appreciation for the servicemembers and their missions in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"You have freed us and are stepping back so we take control," he said. "We have been enabled to think for ourselves. I don't think anyone can be against that."

Caner is a Turkish-born Muslim who immigrated to America in 1978 with his father. In 1982, he converted to Christianity and, in effect, was disowned by his family, according to his Web site.

"I went from being a Turk and a Muslim to becoming an American and a Christian," he said. "I have half sisters who are now learning how to read, and that is amazing, thank you."

For more information about Caner, go to his Web site at www.erguncaner.com.



Lance Cpl. Michael Angelo

Mobile Dental Unit ready for action

Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer
correspondent

Station Dental is deploying its Mobile Dental Unit to various squadrons here now through May 20.

The MDU will be used to help raise Marines and Sailors dental readiness to the prescribed 95 percent required for overseas deployments, which is specified in Secretary of the Navy Instruction 6600.5A.

"We're going to be visiting the squadrons with the Mobile Dental Unit so that we can get the examinations done as quickly as possible without removing the Marines from their work environment for too long," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Angelo S. Moore, Station dental readiness coordinator.

According to Moore, a Huntsville, Ala., native, the Station is currently at 82.63 percent readiness, and the MDU facilitates dental in achieving the goal of 95 percent without requiring Marines to leave their work area.

"The limiting factor is getting patients to actually come to the clinic. We have a num-



Cpl. Steven R. Sawyer

Station Dental is sending these Mobile Dental Units to Station commands starting this week. The MDUs will help raise the Station's dental readiness to the prescribed 95 percent which is required for deployment.

ber of resources available to help us handle the task of providing the Station with dental care, including referring patients to the civilian sector, but Marines can't always get in the door in order to get the examination done," said Capt. Douglas L. Eagan, director of the New River Dental Clinic and native of Chesapeake, Va.

Dental personnel are contacting units to make them aware of the availability of the van, as well as to help schedule the MDU for the best appropriate time for each unit.

"We've sent an e-mail out to all the squadrons and have been coordinating with the squadron dental readiness liaison," said Moore. "We should have a good turnout."

According to Eagan, the importance of meeting the dental requirements can't be stressed enough.

"Dental is just a part of the overall readiness package. We're just helping you meet your deployment needs," said Eagan.

All commands that will be visited by the MDUs are encouraged to participate by allowing the Marines time away from their work spaces, said Moore.

For specific information, contact your unit dental readiness liaison or Moore at 449-6515, ext. 237.

Memorial Chapel Services

Catholic 9 a.m.
Protestant 11 a.m.

For more information call the Memorial Chapel at 449-6801.



Marine Family Service Center

Retired Affairs

Each Wednesday and Friday
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

The retired affairs representative can provide retired service members and spouses with information regarding benefits, entitlements, privileges and legal assistance.

Keystone Meetings for Teens

Each 1st and 3rd Friday
6 - 7 p.m.

This is a Boys and Girls Club Program that offers an opportunity to gain leadership skills, participate in and earn community service hours as well as social activities. Come voice suggestions and plan events.

On the 3rd Friday of each month a teen-selected prevention

topic is presented.

Pre-Separation Brief

May 9
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

This mandated brief covers all required information for the servicemember and spouse separating from the military way of life.

Topics discussed include: pay entitlements, VA benefits, financial management, educational opportunities, transportation of household goods, job service and more.

Pre-registration is mandatory through unit transition counselors.

Stress Management, Part II - Dealing With Difficult People

May 10
1:30 - 4:30 pm

Attend this second part in the four part series and learn practical techniques to deal with difficult people.

Kids With Deployed Parents Workshop

May 13
3:30 - 5 p.m.

This is a workshop for kids to get together talk and make crafts to send to their deployed parent.

Transition Assistance Program

May 16 and 17
8 a.m. - 4:30pm

This is a two-day career options workshop which helps assess, knowledge, skills and abilities and apply military acquired skills in the civilian employment sector.

Topics include resume prepara-

tion, job search, interview skills, dress standards, job negotiations and more.

Pre-registration is required through unit transition counselors.

Stress Management, Part III - Conflict Resolution

May 17
1:30 - 4 p.m.

This is the third class in a four part series focusing on handling and resolving conflicts both in the home and in the workplace.

Stress Management, Part IV - Anger Control

May 24
1:30 - 3:30 pm

Attend the fourth class in the four part series and learn to identify anger styles and find practical

ways to manage "out-of-control" emotions.

Relaxation Techniques

May 31
1:30 - 3:30 pm

Several proven techniques are taught and practiced by the class members to achieve deep relaxation.

These techniques help relieve tension and stress, producing a wonderful feeling of peace, well-being and a feeling of being energized.

For more information about programs or to pre-register for one of the classes, please call 449-6110/6185 or visit the Web site at <http://www.lejeune.usmc.mil/mcas-nr/fsc/fschome.htm>.

FEATHERNECK

CRAIG H. STREETER



Station Theater Movies

May 4 - 21

Day/Date	Time	Title	Rating	Length
Wed. May 4	9 a.m.	Be Cool	PG-13	120 min.
	7 p.m.	Hostage	R	113 min.
Fri. May 6	7 p.m.	Ice Princess	G	92 min.
	9:30 p.m.	Hostage	R	113 min.
Sat. May 7	7 p.m.	Ice Princess	G	92 min.
	9:30 p.m.	Hostage	R	113 min.
Sun. May 8	3 p.m.	Ice Princess	G	92 min.
	6 p.m.	Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous	PG-13	115 min.
Mon. May 9	7 p.m.	Beauty Shop	PG-13	105 min.
Wed. May 11	9 a.m.	Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous	PG-13	115 min.
	7 p.m.	Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous	PG-13	115 min.
Fri. May 13	7 p.m.	Beauty Shop	PG-13	105 min.
	9:30 p.m.	Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous	PG-13	115 min.
Sat. May 14	7 p.m.	Beauty Shop	PG-13	105 min.
	9:30 p.m.	Ring 2	PG-13	111 min.
Sun. May 15	3 p.m.	Ring 2	PG-13	111 min.
	6 p.m.	Guess Who	PG-13	104 min.
Mon. May 16	7 p.m.	Ring 2	PG-13	111 min.
Wed. May 18	9 a.m.	Guess Who	PG-13	104 min.
	7 p.m.	Guess Who	PG-13	104 min.
Fri. May 20	7 p.m.	Fever Pitch	PG-13	107 min.
	9:30 p.m.	Ring 2	PG-13	111 min.
Sat. May 21	7 p.m.	Guess Who	PG-13	104 min.
	9:30 p.m.	Sin City	R	124 min.



The theater snack bar opens 30 minutes before the first movie and closes 45 minutes after the last movie begins.



Movies and times are subject to change.

For more information, call the Station Theater at 449-6292 or 449-6528.

A \$1 admission fee is charged for ages seven and above.

LC10 LCTV-10 Schedule

May 6 - 12

Show Title	Show Times
Familiar Waters: Angler on Tour.....	7:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 11:30 p.m.
The Morning Report	8 a.m., 12 p.m., 4 p.m., 8 p.m., 12 a.m., 4 a.m.
Air Force News	8:30 a.m., 4:30 p.m., 12:30 a.m.
Your Corps	9 a.m., 5 p.m., 1 a.m.
Army News	9:30 a.m., 5:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m.
With the Marines: Chosin to Hungnam.....	10 a.m., 6 p.m., 2 a.m.
Chapel Hill & Orange County N.C.....	10:30 a.m., 6:30 p.m., 2:30 a.m.
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.....	11 a.m., 7 p.m., 3 a.m.
The Naval Wars with France and Tripoli.....	11:30 a.m., 7:30 p.m., 3:30 a.m.
Pacific Report.....	12:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 4:30 a.m.
Navy Marine Corps News.....	1 p.m., 9 p.m., 5 a.m.
Lake Tahoe.....	1:30 p.m., 9:30 p.m., 5:30 a.m.
Pentagon Ch. On Assignment	2 p.m., 10 p.m., 6 a.m.
Pentagon Ch. Studio 5	2:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m., 6:30 a.m.
Fueling Athletic Performance.....	3 p.m., 11 p.m., 7 a.m.

JROTC check into Station, check out Osprey



Pfc. Jonathan A. Tabb

Crystal Mabe, Marine Aircrew Training Systems Squadron operations coordinator from Gastonia, N.C., explains the importance of the "smart boards" used to train pilots about the Osprey simulators to a group of Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from River Rouge High School, River Rouge, Mich., here on April 20. The cadets spent a week aboard Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune and visited the Station to get an overview of the Osprey program.